

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 06134 200326Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 AID-05 /074 W
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R 191946Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7755
INFO USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 6134

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JM, CU
SUBJECT: CASTRO TOURS RURAL JAMAICA

REFERENCE: KINGSTON 6075

1. CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO SPENT THE THIRD DAY OF HIS SIX-DAY VISIT TO JAMAICA ON A ROUND OF VISITS IN RURAL JAMAICA. HE BEGAN BY BREAKING GROUND FOR A \$1.9 MILLION JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT HOUSING PROJECT NEAR MONTEGO BAY AND THEN VISITED THE JAMAICA/CUBA EXCHANGE HOUSING SCHEME IN NEARBY FALMOUTH. CASTRO NEXT TOURED THE REYNOLDS JAMAICA MINES OPERATION, AND ITS LYDFORD CATTLE FARM IN ST. ANN, AND THEN COMPLETED THE DAY BY ATTENDING A RECEPTION IN HIS HONOR AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, JAMAICA HOUSE. LATTER ATTENDED BY AMBASSADOR AND MRS. IRVING.

2. CASTRO SPOKE AT BOTH FALMOUTH AND THE REYNOLDS PLANT WHERE HE REITERATED HIS STATEMENT OF INTENT MADE EARLIER AT SAM SHARPE SQUARE IN MONTEGO BAY (KINGSTON 6096) TO PROVIDE FURTHER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED THAT CUBA WILL NOT INTERFERE IN JAMAICA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. CASTRO'S SPECIFIC OFFERS FOR
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INCREASED ASSISTANCE INCLUDED MEDICAL PROGRAMS, HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PLANTS, AND AN INVITATION TO SEND A JAMAICAN TEAM TO OBSERVE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TECHNIQUES IN CUBA.

3. CASTRO'S VISIT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE HEAVY PRESS PLAY. "THE GLEANER" OF OCTOBER 19 COMMENTED EDITORIALY ON CASTRO'S OCTOBER 17 MONTEGO BAY STATEMENT THAT CUBA HAD NO INTENTION

OF INTERFERRING IN JAMAICA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. UNDER THE CAPTION "A MESSAGE FROM CASTRO", "THE GLEANER" WROTE THAT, WHILE THE CUBAN PRESIDENT STATED THAT HIS COUNTRY DOES NOT INTERVENE OR INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, THERE IS A "CLEAR INTERFERENCE" THAT "CUBA WILL NOT TURN A DEAF EAR TO A CRY FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THOSE WHO HAVE NOT JOINED IN ANY CONSPIRACY OR BLOCKADE AGAINST CUBA." CONTINUING, IT SAID, "IT IS SURELY A MATTER OF DOMESTIC DEBATE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION AS TO THE LEVEL AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE REQUIRED WHICH COULD TAKE AID OVER THE DIVIDING LINE INTO INTERFERENCE."

4. CHARGE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSION, HAS BEEN INVITED TO A RECEPTION, HOSTED BY PRESIDENT CASTRO, ON BOARD CUBAN MERCHANT TRAINING SHIP "JOSE MARTI" EVENING OCTOBER 20.
DORRANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 19-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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